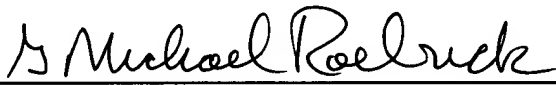


reference pursuant to 35 USC 103(c) as it is "Subject matter developed by another person where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person. At the time of filing of the present application, the inventor was an employee of Western Atlas International, a wholly owned subsidiary of Baker Hughes, Inc. At the time of the invention, the present application and cited reference, Ambs 6,002,648 were both subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity, that is, Baker Hughes, Inc. An assignment of the application was recorded at REEL/FRAME 011364/0023 on 12/04/2000. A copy of the notice of recordation was included in the office action. Thus it is believed that claims 1-20 are patentably distinct over the references cited by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

March 14, 2003
Date


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